

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14, 16-41, 43-55, 59-70, 72-82, 84-121, and 123-150 are pending in the present application. Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

1. Rejection under U.S.C 103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-14, 16-41, 43-48, 61-70, 72-82, 84-115, and 126-150 as being allegedly unpatentable over Patent Application No. WO # 97/06637 issued to Gula (Gula, hereinafter) in view of US. Patent No. 6,005,938 issued to Banker et al. (Banker, herein after), and further in view of US. Patent No. 5,585,858 issued to Harper et al. (Harper, herein after). Applicants respectfully respond this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references discloses or suggests the claimed invention. Specifically, none of the references discloses or suggests that the compressed and encrypted image and audio information are received and stored in a single "central storage system" as files, which are distributed to "multiple auditoriums" at "pre selected time," as now claimed in independent claims 1, 70, 136, and 143. Rather, the references are directed to real-time processing of video and audio information, such as normal TV programming. As such, the audio and video information is processed and distributed, according to the cited references, as the signals are received in real-time. None of the references discloses that (1) the video and audio information is stored in a central storage system as files, (2) such files are distributed from the central storage system to multiple auditoriums for presentation simultaneously or with offset in time, and (3) such files are distributed and processed at pre-selected time, i.e., non-real-time.

Therefore, since the cited reference, singly or in combination, do not disclose at least the above-mentioned claimed limitations, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

2. Rejection under U.S.C 103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 49-55, 59-60, 116-121, and 123-125 as being allegedly unpatentable over Patent Application No. WO # 97/06637 issued to Gula (Gula, hereinafter), US. Patent No. 6,005,938 issued to Banker et al. (Banker, herein after), and

US. Patent No. 5,585,858 issued to Harper et al. (Harper, herein after), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,521,631 issued to Budow et al. (Budow, hereinafter). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, singly or in combination, discloses or suggests the claimed invention, as discussed above in connection with the independent claims 1, 70, 136, and 143. Therefore, since the cited references do not disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned claimed limitations, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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